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ACTION AF-01

INFO LOG-00 AID-01 AMAD-01 CIAE-00 C-01 OASY-00 DODE-00
EB-01 HA-09 H-01 TEDE-00 INR-00 IO-16 L-01
ADS-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 OIC-02 PA-01 PRS-01 P-01
SP-00 SR-00 SS-00 STR-01 TRSE-00 USIE-00 RPE-01
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P 040753Z MAR 94
FM AMEMBASSY KIGALI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5859

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 KIGALI 00909

E.O. 12356: N/A
TAGS: PHUM, RW
SUBJECT: AFRICA WATCH INQUIRY ABOUT MME. MUJAWAMARIYA

RBF: STATE 045432

1. CONFIDENTIAL - ENTIRE TEXT.

2. DCM IS IN REGULAR CONTACT WITH MONIQUE MUJAWAMARIYA. WE MET AT EMBASSY 2/17 AND HAVE BEEN IN TOUCH BY TELEPHONE OFF AND ON PRIOR TO THAT IN BETWEEN MONIQUE'S TRIPS TO BUJUMBURA. DCM CONTACTED MONIQUE 2/24 AFTER RECEIPT OF REFTEL.

3. REFTEL ACCOUNTS OF HARASSMENT AT BARRICADES 1/23 AND 1/26 TRACK WITH ACCOUNTS GIVEN DCM A WEEK AFTER
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THE EVENTS. IN THE 1/23 INCIDENT, MONIQUE SAID THE DEMONSTRATORS, PROTESTING A POLITICAL RALLY CALLED BY PRIME MINISTER-DESIGNATE, ALLOWED ALL OTHER CARS CAUGHT AT THE ROADBLOCK TO PASS, BUT TOOK HER CAR KEYS AND REFUSED TO LET HER GO. ACCORDING TO HER ACCOUNT A WEEK AFTER THE EVENT, SHE MANAGED TO ESCAPE AFTER ONE PERSON RECOGNIZED HER AS THE (EX) WIFE OF AN ARMY COLONEL. IN THE 2/24 CONVERSATION, SHE TOLD DCM SHE WAS SURE THE CROWD IDENTIFIED HER AS A HUMAN RIGHTS ACTIVIST BECAUSE, SHE CLAIMED, THEY HAD

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ACCUSED HER OF HAVING PUBLISHED A PHOTOGRAPH OF THE INTERAHAMWE (YOUTH OF THE PRESIDENT'S POLITICAL PARTY) BEING TRAINED BY THE MILITARY.

4. IN THE 1/26 INCIDENT, MONIQUE BELIEVES THAT IT WAS NOT SHE WHOM THE CROWD IDENTIFIED, BUT THE VEHICLE, A PRIVATE TAXI. THE INCIDENT OCCURRED AT A ROADBLOCK IN FRONT OF THE CND BUILDING (NATIONAL ASSEMBLY) THAT HOUSES THE RPF CIVILIANS AND SOLDIERS. SHE SAID SHE HAD CALLED ON THE RPF AT THE CND THE NIGHT BEFORE USING THE SAME PRIVATE TAXI. SHE SAID THE DEMONSTRATORS CALLED OUT AS THEY THREW THE STONES THAT BROKE THE TAXI'S WINDSHIELD THAT THEY HAD SEEN THE TAXI GOING INTO THE CND THE NIGHT BEFORE.

5. DCM HAS NO REASON TO DOUBT THE VERACITY OF MONIQUE'S ACCOUNTS. DCM IS, HOWEVER, UNABLE TO VERIFY THEM AS MONIQUE WAS ALONE IN BOTH INSTANCES. SHE HAS NOT SEEN THE TAXI DRIVER SINCE AND DOES NOT KNOW HIS NAME. SHE SAID SHE USUALLY ENGAGES WHATEVER TAXI DROPS HER AT HOME AT NIGHT TO COLLECT HER AGAIN

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THE NEXT MORNING.

6. WHEN THE DCM FINALLY REACHED MONIQUE 2/24, SHE CONFIRMED THAT HER TELEPHONE HAD BEEN CUT THREE TIMES. THE FIRST TIME, SHE SAID, WAS 2/3 AS NOTED REFTTEL. THE THIRD TIME, AT 3 PM MONDAY 2/21, MONIQUE WAS AT HOME TELEPHONING WHEN THE PHONE WENT DEAD. THE TIMING COINCIDED WITH THE START OF CDR (HUTU EXTREMIST) DEMONSTRATIONS IN FRONT OF THE FOREIGN MINISTRY AND PRECEDED BY A FEW HOURS PSD MINISTER GATABAZI'S ASSASSINATION. MONIQUE SAID SHE WAS COMPLETELY OUT OF TOUCH WITH EVERYONE DURING THE TWO DAYS OF TROUBLES, 2/22 AND 2/23, WHEN SHE, LIKE MOST OTHER RWANDANS, STAYED IN HER HOUSE.

7. DCM CAN VERIFY THAT MONIQUE'S TELEPHONE WAS OUT OF ORDER DURING THE RECENT VIOLENCE IN KIGALI AND REMAINS OUT AS OF THIS WRITING 3/2. DCM TRIED TO REACH MONIQUE AT HOME SEVERAL TIMES 2/22 AND 2/23 AND, GETTING NO REPLY, ASKED A MUTUAL FRIEND WHO LIVES NEARBY TO CHECK ON MONIQUE. ALTHOUGH HE WOULD NOT VENTURE OUT, HE ASSURED DCM THE NEIGHBORHOOD HAD REMAINED CALM. DCM FINALLY REACHED MONIQUE VIA HER

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OFFICE ON 2/24. WHILE MONIQUE'S PHONE MAY HAVE BEEN OUT OF ORDER ON 2/3 (REFTEL), THE DOWNTIME MAY HAVE BEEN SHORT-LIVED. DCM BELIEVES IT WAS THE EVENING OF 2/3 WHEN SHE TELEPHONED MONIQUE AT HOME AND LEARNED OF THE 1/23 AND 1/26 INCIDENTS. IT IS UNCLEAR WHETHER THE PHONE OUTAGES RESULT FROM CENTRAL OFFICE MANIPULATION OR FROM LINES BEING CUT AS SUGGESTED REFTEL.

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8. COMMENT. HARASSMENT OF HUMAN RIGHTS ACTIVISTS, PARTICULARLY OF MONIQUE AND A COUPLE OTHER OUTSPOKEN RWANDANS, CONTINUES TO OCCUR. DURING THE RECENT VIOLENCE IN KIGALI A NUMBER OF GROUPS OF PERSONS FELT THEMSELVES AT PARTICULAR RISK: HUMAN RIGHTS ACTIVISTS, JOURNALISTS WHO SUPPORT OPPOSITION PARTIES, OPPOSITION POLITICIANS, MEMBERS OF OPPOSITION PARTIES AND TUTSIS WHETHER IN THE ABOVE

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5860

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 KIGALI 00909

E.O. 12356: N/A

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CATEGORIES OR NOT. IT SHOULD BE KEPT IN MIND THAT THE ROADBLOCKS MONIQUE ENCOUNTERED WERE NOT/NOT AIMED AT HER; SHE HAD THE MISFORTUNE TO BE IN THE WRONG PLACE AT THE WRONG TIME WHEN DEMONSTRATIONS WERE ALREADY UNDERWAY AND SHE GOT CAUGHT, AS DID MANY OTHERS. FOR EXAMPLE, A RWANDAN LAWYER TOLD DCM, SOMEWHAT SHEEPISHLY, THAT HIS CURIOSITY PROMPTED HIM TO MAKE THE MISTAKE OF DRIVING 2/23 INTO THE AREA WHERE MONIQUE ENCOUNTERED THE ROADBLOCK JUST TO SEE WHAT WAS HAPPENING. HE FOUND OUT: ALTHOUGH HE TURNED AROUND WHEN HE SAW A ROADBLOCK AND GAVE HIS MONEY TO THE HOODLUMS WHO BLOCKED HIS WAY, THEY STILL

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TRASHED HIS CAR. HE HAD NO SENSE, HOWEVER, OF BEING SINGLED OUT EVEN THOUGH HE IS TUTSI AND REPRESENTS PM-DESIGNATE IN SEVERAL LEGAL CASES.

9. COMMENT CONTINUED. MONIQUE'S CUT PHONE LINES ARE, NEVERTHELESS, PARTICULARLY WORRYING. REPEATED OUTAGES DURING TIMES OF HEIGHTENED INSECURITY APPEAR AIMED AT KEEPING MONIQUE FROM COMMUNICATING WITH PERSONS AROUND TOWN OR WITH HUMAN RIGHTS ORGANIZATIONS ABROAD DURING SECURITY CRISES. IT ALSO MAKES HER VULNERABLE TO VIOLENCE THAT COULD GO UNNOTICED FOR SOME TIME. END COMMENT.

10. RECOMMENDATION. WE BELIEVE THAT A DEMARCHE TO RWANDAN AUTHORITIES SHOULD ENCOMPASS NOT JUST MONIQUE'S SITUATION BUT THAT OF ALL PERSONS WHO ARE AT RISK IN THE CURRENT CLIMATE OF INSECURITY, INCLUDING THE APPROXIMATELY 60 PEOPLE WHO DIED IN LAST WEEK'S SENSELESS KILLINGS. WE INTEND TO INCORPORATE SUCH A DEMARCHE WITH OUR PRESENTATION OF THE RWANDA CHAPTER OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS REPORT TO KEY OFFICIALS RESPONSIBLE FOR SECURITY. THE AMBASSADOR WILL BE DISCUSSING SECURITY AND OTHER HUMAN RIGHTS

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ISSUES AT A LUNCHEON NEXT WEEK WITH KEY RWANDAN HUMAN
RIGHTS WATCHERS. END RECOMMENDATION.

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